

SECRET OF SUCCESS IN GARDENING.

Heavy Fertilizing But One Phase of the Fertilizer Question.

E. W. Shanbarger, in Times-Union and Citizen.

Many persons whose vigorous years have been used in the mastery of other occupations come to Florida in their latter years and make a trial at gardening—and mostly fail—fail because they do not know that there is both an art and a science in successful commercial gardening. A groceryman or a wholesale boot and shoe man, who commenced below the office of clerk, but is now the head of a prosperous firm, when a prosperous farmer sells his farm and starts in opposition next door to him, sees loss in every inapt act the sometime farmer does. But the farmer sees it not, he is blind to his own defects. The groceryman can predict to almost an unerring certainty the financial collapse and failure of the farmer. There is an art and science in successful grocery keeping which only gives up its secrets to those who toil long, laboriously and single-minded at the business. We believe we will not be contradicted when we say that grocerymen as a rule would advise every man who intends to enter the grocery business—but who is ignorant of the business—that he spent several years in its mastery under a prosperous and able head. But this same groceryman will come to Florida and do just what the farmer does when he attempts to run a grocery. The training for commercial gardening is just as severe as the training to make money conducting a grocery. The groceryman sees clearly the farmer's failures trying to run a grocery.

The successful Florida gardener likewise sees defeat and financial failure in every stroke the grocer makes when he attempts to garden. Want of egotism prevents us from advising the groceryman to commence at doing the rough work, as a farm hand. We admit we believe he would learn fast. Last winter an old retired, successful wholesale boot and shoe dealer, having some financial interest in Florida gardening, visited Bear Head Farm. I knew how futile his efforts would be, but I had respect for the man, as he had mastered his own profession; so I tried to get the first element necessary to success into his head.

We were then cutting and shipping lettuce. I showed him how much fertilizer we had put on, and to hit him right hard I told him I doubted if lettuce ever paid its best until \$200 per acre had been spent in fertilizer. He stood aghast. Right here is the first great failure of inexperienced gardeners.

I know a successful celery grower, who says nothing but saws wood, who uses four tons of blood and bone to the acre, adding low grade sulphate of potash to balance, then, as a finisher, 200 to 500 pounds of nitrate of soda to the acre. This, on previously well-fertilized land. An old saw of the gardener is (and gardeners have merry old saws in their unwritten lore), "fertilizers always pay best on rich land." Now, many a city business man would condemn the above fertilizer bill as extravagant. But if a farmer came to a large city and rented a garret upstairs in a back alley to run a wholesale grocery to save money rent, it would be no greater financial blunder than is daily committed by these northern city business men when they come to Florida to garden.

Let us look the matter squarely in the face what the gardener must accomplish to be successful. Let the northern groceryman of a city of 25,000 search out the man who raises the finest vegetables that supply the wealthiest of that city.

Let him drive out and see his gardens. He will find that the gardener has been years in enriching and building up his garden. He will find piles and stacks of manure to enrich the overrich garden. He thinks the gardener is wasteful and extravagant in his manure. Let this groceryman right here attempt to raise vegetables as good as the gardener's—what toil, how much enriching and building up of soil he will have until he is abreast with him, until his vegetables will be sought after by the richest purses of that city, and be admitted on the table side by side with the gardener's.

Transfer this same battle to Washington, New York and Philadelphia and the rich, those who are able to pay are supplied from gardens that are enriched to their utmost limits.

Now, mark what follows. Those who, all summer through, have lived on the tenderest vegetables of the richest gardens demand the same high-grade in winter. So we here in the south must raise the same tender vegetables in the winter that are raised in the best gardens in the north in the summer. A December Philadelphia market price list quotes Florida lettuce thus:

"Fancy lettuce, \$3 per basket; common stock, without value." Now, the gardener who has a soil so rich as to grow the very best lettuce and whose soil is adapted to lettuce will net perhaps \$1.50 a basket, forty heads to the basket. At 30,000 heads to the acre, we have over \$1,000 per acre—and just as sure as money only comes to the expert groceryman, just so sure money only comes to the expert gardener. To save money by not using fertilizers heavy, is like saving rent money by trying to run a wholesale grocery upstairs in an attic in a back alley.

But that fertilizers must be used heavily is only one phase of the fertilizer question.

FLORIDA'S FINANCES.

Showing Made By State Treasurer J. B. Whitfield's Report.

State Treasurer J. B. Whitfield has completed his annual report for the year 1899, showing the financial condition of Florida at the beginning of the new year.

The receipts for the general revenue fund, including a balance, as per last report, of \$214,839.55, were \$861,256.66, and the disbursements were \$643,878.39, leaving a balance of \$217,378.27 on hand.

During the year the interest on the state debt aggregated \$71,946.78, of which \$49,516.78 was paid to state funds and \$22,430 to individuals.

The balance sheet of the several state funds showed a cash balance of \$318,416.40 on Dec. 31st, 1899.

The general revenue fund, amounting to \$217,378.27, is the only fund from which is paid the general expenses of the state government, including assessment and collection of revenue, interest on state debt, appropriations made by the legislature for the several state colleges, insane asylum, jurors and witnesses, and all other expenses authorized by law.

The payments falling due for the last quarter of 1899 and to be paid during this month from the general revenue fund, which will amount to \$115,000, will greatly reduce the available cash for current expenses.

The receipts from the sales and redemption of tax sale certificates during the year aggregated \$120,252.26, which was distributed as follows:

State tax carried to general revenue fund, \$17,002.37; to one mill school tax fund, \$4,857.81; to pension fund, \$1,705.80; to state board of health fund, \$1,214.47; to expense of tax sales and interest on tax certificates carried to general revenue fund, \$41,717.91; county tax remitted to counties, \$53,753.90.

What We Eat

Is intended to nourish and sustain us, but it must be digested and assimilated before it can do this. In other words, the nourishment contained in food must be separated by the digestive organs from the waste materials and must be carried by the blood to all parts of the body. We believe the reason for the great benefit which so many people derive from Hood's Sarsaparilla lies in the fact that this medicine gives good digestion and makes pure, rich blood. It restores the functions of those organs which convert food into nourishment; it gives strength to nerves and muscles. It also cures dyspepsia, scrofula, salt rheum, boils, sores, pimples and eruptions, catarrh, rheumatism and all diseases that have their origin in impure blood.

San Antonio Herald: Orange trees seem to have weathered the cold all right, excepting, of course, the loss of the leaves and tender sprouts. But the guava crop for next year is destined to be very short.

J. M. McMullen, a deputy sheriff of Citrus county, was assassinated at his home on the night of Dec. 26, and the assassin is still at large. Gov. Bloxham has offered \$100 reward for the arrest and conviction of the murderer.

Help... Nature

Babies and children need proper food, rarely ever medicine. If they do not thrive on their food something is wrong. They need a little help to get their digestive machinery working properly.

SCOTT'S EMULSION OF COD LIVER OIL
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will generally correct this difficulty.

If you will put from one-fourth to half a teaspoonful in baby's bottle three or four times a day you will soon see a marked improvement. For larger children, from half to a teaspoonful, according to age, dissolved in their milk, if you so desire, will very soon show its great nourishing power. If the mother's milk does not nourish the baby, she needs the emulsion. It will show an effect at once both upon mother and child.

Soc. and \$1.00 all druggists.
SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, New York.

"Necessity Knows No Law."

But a law of Nature bows to the necessity of keeping the blood pure so that the entire system shall be strong, healthy and vigorous.

To take Hood's Sarsaparilla, the great blood purifier, is therefore a law of health and it is a necessity in nearly every household. It never disappoints.

Tired Feeling—"I had that tired, dull feeling, dyspepsia, headaches and sinking spells, but Hood's Sarsaparilla made me a new man. I never was better than now." JOHN MACK, Oskaloosa, Iowa.

Rosy Cheeks—"I have good health and rosy cheeks, thanks to Hood's Sarsaparilla. It builds me up and saves doctor's bills." MARY A. BURKE, 604 East Clair Street, Indianapolis, Ind.

Hood's Sarsaparilla
Never Disappoints

Hood's Pills cure liver ills; the non-irritating and only cathartic to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

RAILROAD COMMISSION SUSTAINED.

Important Decision By Supreme Court In the Terminal Company's Case.

A decision was rendered in the supreme court at Tallahassee Monday in the case of the state of Florida upon the relation of William B. Lamar, as attorney general of said state, and Benjamin S. Liddon and John M. Barrs, as special counsel for the railroad commission of the state of Florida, against the Jacksonville Terminal company. The force of the decision was an important one, in that it affirmed the constitutionality of the railroad commission law, adopted by the last legislature, and reversed the judgment of Judge Call in the circuit court with directions to overrule the motion to quash and for further proceedings according to law.

The following telegram announcing the decision in outline was received by E. J. L'Eagle, of Adams & L'Eagle, special counsel for the Atlantic, Valdosta & Western Railway company, from Judge Raney, also of counsel for the road:

"Proper parties plaintiff and defendant. Regulations made by commission reasonable and just. Remedy by mandamus is constitutional. Regulations are in aid of interstate commerce, and affect it only incidentally and are not an interference with it. The Atlantic, Valdosta & Western Railway company is subject to regulations by commissioners so far as the road and its business are in this state. The public interest is involved. The statute applies wherever a terminal company undertakes to furnish facilities to several common carriers, but not where used by a common carrier exclusively for its own use. The property, according to pleadings, is devoted to public use, and it is discrimination to exclude the Atlantic, Valdosta & Western railway therefrom. The case is not one of an appropriation of property to public use requiring intervention of a jury. All constitutional questions decided against the terminal company claims."

The proper parties in this case before the supreme court are the state and the Terminal company. The decision asserts that the regulations made by the railroad commission for the admission of the railroad into the terminal station were just and proper, and the claim that suit in cases in which are involved claims relating to the acts of the railroad commission, should be brought to the supreme court to enforce penalty or forfeiture, and not by mandamus, was overruled.

The judgment of the circuit court in Duval county is reversed, with direction to overrule the motion to quash and for further proceeding according to law.

The result is that the validity of the railroad commission is sustained, and the power of the state upheld to regulate terminal companies. The case now comes back to the circuit court of Duval county for hearing on the facts of this particular case.

The attorneys in the case were John E. Hartridge and John A. Henderson, for the terminal company, and Alexander Smith, of Atlanta; J. P. Raney, of Tallahassee, and Adams & L'Eagle, of Jacksonville, for the A. V. & W. Co.

Large Tract of Land Sold.

J. R. Challen, as special master, has sold, under an order of the United States court at DeLand, in the suit of Mary C. Greeley vs. the Low heirs, 5,008 acres of land near Oak Hill, in Volusia county, to a Baltimore syndicate for \$12,510. This suit has been pending in court for twelve years.

The complainant to the suit is a sister of Admiral Dewey, and resides in Vermont. She is the widow of the late Dr. Greeley, surgeon in the United States army.

The land is to be improved and sold in small farms.

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